

SPRINGFIELD



SCENE



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Tuesday, 5th January, 1982 — Kick-off 7.30 p.m.
FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- TRANMERE ROVERS

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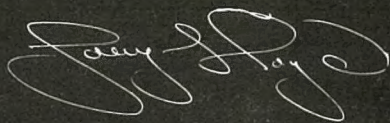
Welcome back to Springfield Park for our first game here for quite a while. Despite being out of action for some four weeks, we travelled to Mansfield on Saturday, and played extremely well to collect three points.

The month of January is a crucial month for us, starting with a difficult game tonight against Tranmere followed by games against three of our promotion rivals Sheffield United, Peterborough United and Bradford City. This of course gives us a fine opportunity to close the gap on the teams above us in the League.

This enforced rest from playing has at least given us the opportunity to clear up the one or two minor injuries that some players have had. Kevin Sheldon is our only player now with a slight injury and hopefully this will improve soon.

I would like to congratulate our groundsman Bill Mitchell and his staff for preparing the ground and keeping it in excellent condition throughout this shocking spell of bad weather. Well done Bill!

Enjoy the game,



Larry Lloyd.



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Scene Four

WHY TRANMERE PREFER AWAY GAMES!

Tranmere players have come to dread home matches. Another Prenton Park catastrophe was averted recently when player-manager Bryan Hamilton equalised against Mansfield Town in the very last minute.

Rovers have managed only one victory in nine home League games this season — that was by 1-0 against Hartlepool United in October — and this is beginning to reflect in their attendances. A recent gate of 1,317 was their lowest of the season.

Yet it seemed that Tranmere might be about to end their dismal home run when Bobby Hutchinson gave them the lead after only 18 minutes. But two snap goals, within a two-minute period mid-way through the second half from Trevor Morgan — their recent signing from Bournemouth — put visiting Mansfield into a 2-1 lead which they held until that last-minute saver.

Oddly, Tranmere have taken ten points from their nine away League games and another strange thing is that, in the League Cup, they scored good wins in each of their three home ties against Burnley (4-2), Port Vale (2-0) and Colchester United (1-0).

One of the surprise teams are Port Vale who have been making a rapid climb up the table and who could now well become one of the chief promotion challengers. Vale made a poor start to the season and were particularly disappointing at home. But they have now made a good recovery and have won their last three home games. Though they were held to a goalless draw at Scunthorpe, Vale must now be considered a serious threat.

Bournemouth were a little fortunate to save a point at Hartlepool after going behind to a Bob Newton goal in the 77th minute. One of the big features of Bournemouth's play this season, though, has been their fighting spirit. They refused to give up and were duly rewarded when Tom Heffernan picked up a rebound from the home goalkeeper to score a simple equaliser two minutes from time.

Bradford City's two fine performances against

Ipswich Town in the League Cup seem to have done much to restore confidence at Valley Parade. Bradford held Ipswich to 1-1 at Portman Road and then took them to extra-time at Valley Parade before finally going out 2-3.

They moved swiftly into action against promotion rivals Peterborough United at Valley Parade. Goals from Peter Jackson and David McNiven put Bradford 2-0 ahead after only ten minutes and they held on comfortably to take three points.

A tragic run of six winless games — producing just one point — has sent Blackpool hurtling downwards and, temporarily at least, out of the promotion race. The Tangerines were desperately unlucky men when they visited Fourth Division leaders Colchester United last weekend. They finally went down 1-2, the decisive goal being an own-goal from their veteran midfield man Peter Noble.

Northampton Town's third successive League defeat — 0-1 at home to Darlington — kept them firmly in bottom place. In their previous home game the Cobblers had crushed Alliance League Weymouth 6-2 in an F.A. Cup replay but, in the League, their biggest problem remains a lack of scoring power.

Sheffield United refused to allow themselves to be thrown out of their promotion stride by their shock F.A. Cup defeat by Altrincham. The Alliance men drew 2-2 at Bramall Lane and then beat the Blades 3-0 in the replay. Sheffield then faced a critical away game at Bournemouth, which they drew 0-0, and they then coasted to a fairly easy 2-0 home win over Aldershot to extend their unbeaten run in League matches to 13 games. Last Saturday's home draw with Halifax will not have helped their plans, however, and our visit to Bramall Lane next Saturday promises to be very exciting.

Hereford United, held to a goalless home draw by Rochdale, recorded their sixth successive home draw in the Fourth Division and have still won only one of their nine home League games.

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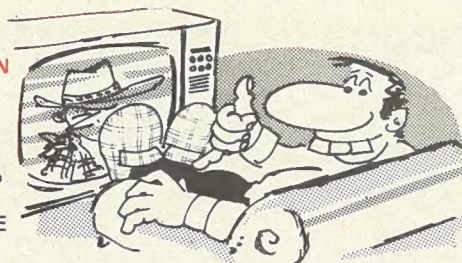
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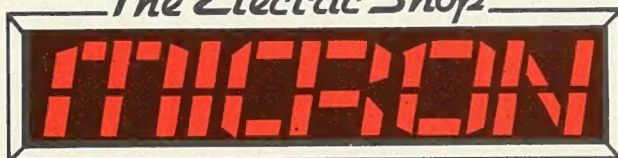


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FOURTH DIVISION RESULTS GRID

	AWAY	Aldershot	Blackpool	Bournemouth	Bradford	Bury	Colchester	Crewe	Darlington	Halifax	Hartlepool	Hereford	Hull	Mansfield	Northampton	Peterborough	Port Vale	Rochdale	Scunthorpe	Sheffield Utd.	Stockport	Torquay	Tranmere	Wigan	York
HOME																									
Aldershot																									
Blackpool		3-2	2-0		1-2				0-0	3-1	1-2			2-3								1-1	2-1		0-1
Bourn'm'th			0-3		1-1		5-0		7-1				3-1								2-0	2-1			
Bradford		4-1					2-1		3-0		1-0				1-1		1-1	1-0	2-0	0-0				0-0	
Bury									2-0				0-2		7-1	3-1	3-2	3-0	4-0		2-0			3-3	6-2
Colchester		1-1										4-0			5-1				2-1			3-0	4-0	1-2	4-0
Crewe		2-3				1-2			1-0	0-1							0-2	1-2	3-0			0-1			1-1
Darlington			2-2	1-5		1-2				1-1				1-0		0-0	1-1	2-0		2-0					
Halifax				1-1		2-1	0-2						2-1		1-1			0-0	1-2			1-2	0-2		
Hartlepool						1-3	1-2		3-2				3-2		3-1	0-1						0-0		2-1	
Hereford					1-2	3-0			1-1	2-2	1-1		2-2								0-0	0-3			
Hull		1-2				2-1		2-3								1-1				2-1			1-2	0-2	2-0
Mansfield			2-2	0-1	0-2	1-1		0-1				2-1	3-3		4-1			4-3						1-2	
North'pton			0-1	3-1	0-2			3-0				2-3	1-1						1-1	1-2	0-0		3-2		
Peterboro'		7-1		1-0				3-0				3-1		1-0	1-0		5-1			1-1	1-2				0-1
Port Vale		1-0					2-1		0-0	5-2		2-1	0-0		1-3					0-2	1-0				
Rochdale		0-0	0-0				1-2				2-1					1-2					4-1	1-0	0-0	1-1	
Scunthorpe			1-1		1-3						2-1	2-2	4-4			0-1							2-1		0-3
Sheffield Utd.			3-1				1-0	4-0			1-1	2-2		4-1				1-0					2-0		
Stockport		4-2		1-2	2-3			2-0		2-1				3-0		3-0				1-0		2-1			
Torquay					2-0								2-1	2-0	2-2				1-0	1-1			1-2		3-2
Tranmere				0-1	1-1	1-3			1-1		1-0	0-0												0-0	0-2
Wigan									2-1		1-1			3-1		2-0		2-1	0-1	2-1	1-0				
York		0-4	0-1						2-2		1-2	3-4		2-1						3-4					0-0

COMING SHORTLY

PETERBOROUGH UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

The Peterborough United Football Club was formed in 1934, and joined the Midland League. Although the club played on the London Road Ground, as had Peterborough and Fletton United, no connection exists between the two clubs.

The pre-war period did not bring any League success to the club, with the team finishing in the middle to lower half of the table, but, twice, the club made it to the First Round Proper of the F.A. Cup Competition in Seasons 1936-37, and 1938-39. However, the club's progress was halted by Dartford and Bristol Rovers respectively.

After the second World War, things began to look up, and improved results in the Midland League, saw "The Posh" finish nearer to the top of the table, leading to a runners-up spot in 1953-54. Better things then followed, with five successive Midland League Championships between seasons 1955-56, and 1959-1960. Such was the strength of the team during that period that the aggregate home record was as follows:-

Played 103 games. Won 94. Drawn 8. Lost 1. For 428 goals Against 65 goals. 196 pts.

Indeed, the 1958-59 Midland League Championship was won without a defeat, the League record for the season being as follows:-

Played 36 games. Won 32. Drawn 4. Lost 0. For 137 goals. Against 26 goals. 66 pts. This consistent record, together with the cup reputation that had been built by this time, helped gain Football League entry into 1960. During the cup runs, eight Football League teams were beaten, and Peterborough United twice reached the Fourth Round stage.

Peterborough won the Fourth Division Championship, at the first time of asking, with 66 points, scoring 134 goals in the process. In the following season, 1961-1962, there was a strong bid to maintain further rapid progress, but the team eventually finished in fifth position, this being the highest position attained in the Football League Third Division, until the 1977-1978 season when the club finished fourth, missing promotion on goal difference. In 1967-1968 the Peterborough United Football Club was demoted in status for breaches of signing-on, and bonus regulations. It is the considered opinion of many that the club have still not fully recovered from that blow.

Promotion to the Third Division of the Football League was achieved, under Noel Cantwell's guidance, in season 1973-1974, when the Championship Trophy came to London Road for the second time. Unfortunately, in 1979, "The Posh" found themselves relegated to the Fourth Division of the Football League, a sorry state of affairs for a club so obviously geared for a higher status. However, Peterborough United's loss is our gain, since it is always a pleasure to receive a visit from the club, which seems to produce a succession of skilful and talented teams. Visits to London Road are also equally rewarding, for the ground bears witness to the progressive attitude of the club's directors over a period of years. Wigan Athletic supporters should not miss the game to be played at Springfield Park on Saturday, 16th January, 1982, kick-off at 3.00 p.m.

FOR YOUR DIARY

Additional re-arranged away fixture

Tuesday, 12th January, 1982

CREWE ALEXANDRA -v- WIGAN ATHLETIC

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

KICK-OFF 7.30 p.m.

Saturday, 16th January, 1982

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- PETERBOROUGH UNITED

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.



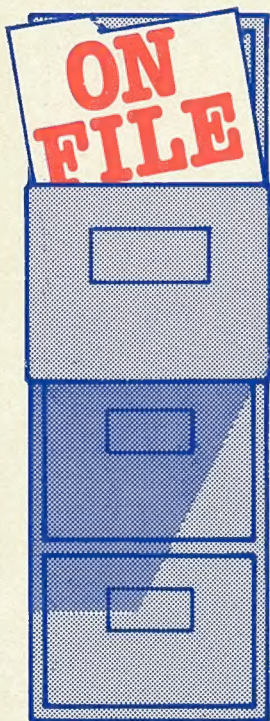
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As I write this, the snow has, at long last, cleared from Springfield Park, and Billy Mitchell, the groundsman, has just been telling me about some ex-member of the staff of Wigan Rugby, who, surveying a similarly snow-covered pitch, suggested that Billy turned on the floodlights to thaw it out! When Billy pointed out that this might not work very well, he suggested getting lots of cars on the pitch, engines running.

Billy, like Jack Farrimond, is one of our "part-time" workers who works a six-and-a-half day week. He has, of course, had many years of experience on the land, and is considered a sage amongst groundsman, and I had access to his wisdom on the second day I was here. He was standing out in the middle of the pitch, surveying the sky and watching a flock of seagulls landing on the shed at the Shevington End. "Well, Colin", he said, "its going to rain tonight and tomorrow morning, but it will be nice tomorrow afternoon "By gum, Bill", says I, "can you tell all that just by looking around you?". "On no", says he, "I just rang the weather centre!"

There can be no doubt that, Billy

and his grandson, Philip, ably assisted by the ever willing but unpaid volunteer, Tommy Seddon, make up one of the finest (and, they insist, cheapest) groundstaff, not only in the area, but in Britain. You may have seen Aston Villa's beautiful pitch on the television recently — it cost them £75,000 to get it like that. Just think what our gang could do to Springfield Park with that amount — their budget for the year is £1,250!

And a final point, next time you are passing the ground mid-week, pop onto the terraces and you might see the groundstaff plodding around the pitch like a slow moving herd of cows. They are in fact, replacing divots, but for the first few weeks here, I was gullible enough to believe Philip, when he told me that the referee had lost a 50p. piece at a game last season, and when they've nothing better to do, they wander around to see if they can find it!

Happy New Year

Cheers,

Colin Burke,

Secretary



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THE LOCAL VIEW



by Harold Ashurst

Fixtures backlogs in all local leagues in the area have understandably become serious due to the month of bad weather in December.

Leading the way is the Post and Chronicle Sunday League who have more than 100 games to be re-arranged but they are already taking steps to halt the slide into even deeper chaos.

Clubs have agreed that for all the Divisional Cup competition, Hurst, Hancock, Victoria and Junior, the games will be played to a finish with extra time and then penalties if necessary in a bid to cut back on the need for replays. It's early in the season for such action but League officials fear more bad weather during the next two months.

The Challenge Trophy competition open to all clubs has been put on ice — literally — and it is hoped to play it before the end of the season. There are 17 Sundays and four Tuesdays on which midweek games can be played before the end of the season so here's hoping for some fine weather.

The situation is the same for Wigan Amateur League whose backlog of games is growing but hopefully, they too can take advantage of the break in the bad weather and get some of them out of the way.

Still with the Amateur League, a row blew up at their meeting last week over changing

rooms at the William Foster Playing Fields, Ince — or rather the lack of them.

Rugby and soccer teams share facilities there and League General Secretary says the changing rooms are totally inadequate.

"It is unacceptable and before long there is going to be an almighty fracas between the soccer and rugby lads.

"Some of our lads are having to change in the toilets and showers at Fosters and it's just not good enough."

Mike is going to make a strong protest on behalf of the League this week.

Both Leagues are angry about the metro's decision to increase pitch charges by £10 next season and Mike Taylor commented: "That's just making the job of running football all the harder for people who give up hours of time and spend money from their own pockets."

Finally, Lower Ince have been booted out of Division Four of the Post and Chronicle Sunday League. The decision was taken at last week's committee meeting. Earlier this season club officials were given a final warning after a series of broken rules including fielding inelligible players, late kick offs and general discipline. The last straw, however, was last month when they failed to turn up for a home game with St. James.

The club still owes the League £31 for various items and until the cash is paid none of their players will be allowed to sign for other teams.

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P I C T U R E



Peter Houghton (almost hidden) puts home the first goal against Halifax Town.

Les Bradd (almost hidden by Peter Houghton) forces home the second goal against "They Shaymen".

Photographs by David Cookson.

G A L L E R Y



NOTICE BOARD

A Happy New Year with a Season Ticket

A limited number of season tickets are available for both Centre and Side Stands at the following rates:

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All enquiries to the Secretary, Wigan Athletic A.F.C. Ltd., Springfield Park, Wigan.

Any contributions to this section of the programme should be addressed to "Notice Board", Commercial Department, Wigan Athletic A.F.C. Ltd., Springfield Park, Wigan.



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MATCH DAY PROGRAMME

Any complaints, comments or opinions about the Match Day Programme should be directed to the Programme Editor, Wigan Athletic A.F.C., Programme Department, Springfield Park, Wigan. Telephone Wigan 43067.

Supporters Club

SPOTLIGHT

A VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR, FROM THE BAR STAFF AND COMMITTEE TO ALL FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS OF THE SUPPORTERS' CLUB. ALSO A WARM WELCOME TO THE OFFICIALS, PLAYERS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE TRANMERE ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB.

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The Aspull and New Springs Darts and Dominoes League have now completed the first half of the season, with great results. From our Dominoes Team, being top of the League with 14 points, three points clear of second place. On the other hand, the Darts team are not having much success, being third from bottom.

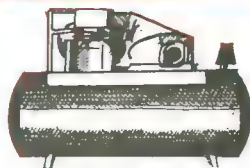
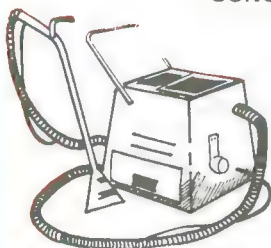
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Fred Clemson,
Chairman

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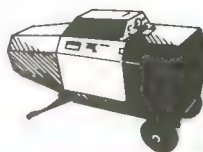
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TRANMERE



TRANMERE ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB — 1981-1982

Back Row: (left to right): Ray Mathias, Steve Craven, Derek Mountfield, Dick Johnson, Scott Endersby, John Eddie Robertson (Ass. Manager). **Front Row:** Neville Powell, Steve Mungall, Les Parry, Bryan Hamilton (Manager), John Bramhall, Ian Griffiths.

We tonight have the privilege of entertaining our near-neighbours Tranmere Rovers in this season's return Fourth Division League fixture. In late September, we visited Prenton Park, and both sides were well satisfied to settle for a nil-nil draw, after wading through 90 minutes of competitive football. The elements seem to make a habit of conspiring to make things difficult for the two clubs, as if all the tension and fierce rivalry associated with a derby fixture were not enough for players and supporters to contend with. We

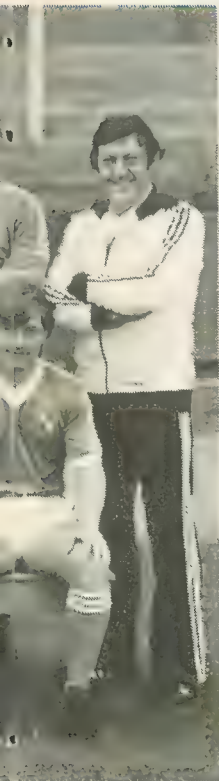
can only hope that, after the snow, playing conditions will be reasonable enough to reward both clubs for their readiness in providing a game for the spectators to enjoy.

A great deal of publicity has been given over the past twelve months to the difficulties being experienced by the Tranmere Rovers Football Club. It is pleasing to report that the immediate problems which were evident at the beginning of the season have been dealt with satisfactorily. In the short term, things are looking better for the Merseyside club,

and we are sure that the enthusiasm and spirit of the Tranmere Rovers is well known to all who follow Football at Prenton Park.

Welcome then, to all who will be in attendance, and to the management, staff and players of Tranmere Rovers Football Club. We are pleased to have you at the club, and trust that the entertainment will be sufficient to lighten a

... in town today... in town today... RE ROVERS



... Kelly, John Kerr,
... (Manager), Brian Morley,

... that, in the future, the
... it for which Tranmere
... will guarantee League
... Park for many years to

... to the directors,
... and supporters of the
... football Club. We are
... as our guests today, and
... inment provided will be
... a dark January evening.

PREVIOUS LEAGUE RESULTS

Season 1979-1980 10th March, 1980.	Tranmere R. 1 Wigan Ath. 3 H.T. Score 0-0 Att. 3,069 Scorers: Tranmere R: Evans Wigan Ath. Gore, G. Urquhart, Houghton
22nd March, 1980	Wigan Ath. 0 Tranmere R. 0 H.T. Score 0-0 Att. 5,828 Scorers: —
Season 1980-1981 25th October, 1980	Wigan Ath. 1 Tranmere R. 1 H.T. Score 1-0 Att. 5,421 Scorers: Wigan Ath: M. Quinn Tranmere R. Lumby
29th March, 1981	Tranmere R. 2 Wigan Ath. 3 H.T. Score 1-2 Att. 3,437 Scorers: Tranmere R. Mungall, Kelly.- Wigan Ath: Houghton (3)
Season 1981-1982 26th Sept. 1981	Tranmere R. 0 Wigan Ath. 0 H.T. Score 0-0 Att. 2,774 Scorers: —

PERSONALITIES

JOHN BRAMHALL (Centre Back) He is the tallest player in the team. Born in Warrington and another player who joined the Club straight from school. Was a part-timer until he completed his craft apprenticeship three years ago.

STEVEN CRAVEN (Forward) A product of Rovers' youth policy. Became a full timer with Tranmere four seasons ago, after serving his time at a local Shipyard.

STEVE MUNGALL (Defender) Born in Bellshill, joined Motherwell straight from school and made a number of first team appearances when Ally McLeod took over at Firs Park. Steve was given a free transfer and Rovers' snapped him up. Has played in most league and cup games except when injury has occurred.

JOHN KERR (Striker) Is a powerfully built striker who joined Rovers straight from school. He soon earned his place in the Rovers' First Team. Tranmere will be looking for plenty of goals from John this season, as he has demonstrated on many occasions how well he can finish.

IAN GRIFFITHS (Forward) Although one of the smallest Rovers' players, 'Biffo' (as known by Rovers' fans) is an exciting flank player who completed his apprenticeship as a welder before joining the Rovers' ranks as a full time professional.

DEREK MOUNTFIELD (Centre Back) After captaining the Rovers' youth team last season, this Central Defender, fought his way into the First Team. Derek hails from Wallasey, being yet another product of Rovers' youth policy.

JOHN WILLIAMS (Centre Forward) Hails from Liverpool, this tall blonde footballer, is one who escaped the net of Everton and Liverpool to join Rovers in 1979. Equally happy at Centre Half or in a striking role, John is 22 years old and established himself last season as one of Rovers' first team squad.

OWEN BROWN (Striker) Liverpool born, Owen was signed from Carlisle United on a free transfer, after impressing while on trial in early season games. He has already proved a valuable goal scorer.

SCOTT ENDERSBY (Goalkeeper) Having played under Bobby Robson at Ipswich for 3 years, Rovers' Manager snapped up the 19 year old goalkeeper on a free transfer. Scott has also had a spell with a Swedish Club, but has now been welcomed to the Wirral and Tranmere Rovers.

BOBBY HUTCHINSON (Striker) Another close season signing by Bryan Hamilton, this Scotsman made the trip to Prenton Park after playing with Hibs, Aberdeen and Wigan. He is 24 years old and hails from Glasgow. Bob is a striker who regularly finds the back of the net.

BRYAN HAMILTON (Player/Manager) Bryan joined Rovers last season after an international career of over 50 matches and a Club career that took him to Ipswich, Everton, Millwall and Swindon before his appointment at Prenton Park. One of the new breed of young Managers, Bryan hails from Northern Ireland, and is able to use his invaluable experience of the game as well as continue to play a major part on the field itself.

BRIAN MORLEY (Defender) Signed a free transfer from Blackburn Rovers at the end of July 1981. Brian played 17 first team games in Blackburns first team when they gained promotion from the third division in 1978/79 and was a member of the First team squad during their promotion battle last season when they just missed going up into the First Division.

For the best in Latics news, interviews and features, read Harold Ashurst who writes every Thursday in

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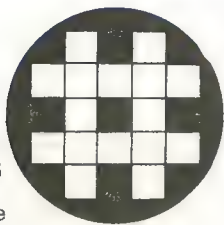
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PUZZLE PAGE



ON THE BALL No. 15

Every answer has five letters and the first one fits into the top line, but you have to decide where the rest must go.

"Alex les ---"; Coppell, could be; Back ---;
One of the Woodses.

CLUB CLUE No. 15

Solve this cryptic club to identify a soccer side:

Wines . . . and what they go in!

MIXED DOUBLES No. 15

Re-order the letters in each of the words **CHOIR** and **MOURN** to find two Scottish internationals.

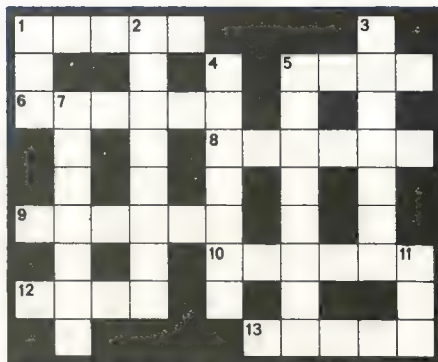
QUICK QUIZ No. 15

- Which League club has the largest pitch?
- Who was the last man to score over 50 League goals in a season?
- Who was the last Scot to score in three successive Scotland-England games?
- Aston Villa played 170 consecutive First Division matches without what?
- Which two goalkeeping brothers swapped clubs?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 30

©PQRS

1981/82 SERIES



SOCCKER NINETY NINER

No. 15 (compiled by David Peck)

ACROSS

- West Ham's top scorer in the last couple of seasons (5)
- Aerial pass (4)
- What one school of penalty-takers thinks the kick should be (6)
- He made his Liverpool and his international debuts in 1981 (6)
- The only European credited with over 1000 goals in his career (and that despite some hindrance in World War 2) (6)
- Wales' stopper in the 1950s, his career took in Swansea (twice), Arsenal, Sunderland and Cardiff (6)
- Oddly, overlapping internationals David and George never appeared together for Scotland (4)
- Compton, war-time England international (5)

DOWN

- Memento that might go to a player's head! (3)
- A goal in the last minute of the season won Real --- their first-ever championship in 1981 (edging out Real Madrid by a whisper) (8)
- Jack Charlton's playing-days nickname (7)
- After topping Hull's scoring list in each of his three seasons there, he returned to Sheffield United for this season (7)
- He made his 50th England appearance in 1980 (8)
- After 400-plus games for Leeds he turned out for York, Toronto and Vancouver (7)
- The fully-capped brother of 13 across (3)

OUT & ABOUT



with Chris Gill

Well, as the New Year quickly gets under way Latics fans can take consolation from the fact that the worst is probably over. Yes, the Tuesday night horror trips to Bournemouth, Hartlepool and Aldershot, not to mention the inter-galactic trip to Colchester . . . it felt that far away . . . are a thing of the past . . . thank heavens. Instead, we should now be preparing to sample the delights of excursions to points a little nearer home.

The early January trip to Bramhall Lane will, hopefully, prove a little less disconcerting than the last time I visited Sheffield. Many years ago, having watched Everton earn a draw against United, I was hotly pursued by some angry natives (could they have been football hooligans, even in those days?), and consequently broke the World 400 metres record (unofficial, of course).

I never advertise my presence at matches by wearing a PRESS sticker in my cap, possibly because I don't have a hat and some silly fool would. But at Portsmouth in Latics' second year, their fans frightened me to death . . . and I used to live in Kirkby! Bent noses, cauliflower ears, you name the

affliction and they had it. A short journey from the safety of the press box to the changing area, via the stand, almost turned into a trip of terror.

It's funny how a sixth sense tells you when things are looking down, possibly helped by the fact that eight or ten skinheads were waving their fists in the air. Anyway, all was resolved by a quick return trip to the press box and an increase in numbers for a second assault on the exit door. But my plight really got worse, when having a drink in the players lounge, I was discussing the merits, or otherwise, of a very experienced goalkeeper called Peter Mellor and criticism wasn't very far away. That's all right in itself except no one bothered to tell me that he was standing right behind me listening to every word. Oops!!

However, let's reflect on the shock of the fortnight, Halifax Town's decision to ban the B.B.C. for life following a recent Match of the Day presentation. That, I'm afraid, will be a real killer for the poor old Beeb, once more reduced to the traumas of Old Trafford and Anfield.

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Season	Champions	Pts.	Runners-Up	Pts.
1946-47	Manchester City	62	Burnley	58
1947-48	Birmingham City	59	Newcastle United	56
1948-49	Fulham	57	West Bromwich Albion	56
1949-50	Tottenham Hotspur	61	* Sheffield Wednesday	52
1950-51	Preston North End	57	Manchester City	52
1951-52	Sheffield Wednesday	53	* Cardiff City	51
1952-53	Sheffield United	60	Huddersfield Town	58
1953-54	* Leicester City	56	Everton	56
1954-55	* Birmingham City	54	* Luton Town	54
1955-56	Sheffield Wednesday	55	Leeds United	52
1956-57	Leicester City	61	Nottingham Forest	54
1957-58	West Ham United	57	Blackburn Rovers	56
1958-59	Sheffield Wednesday	62	Fulham	60
1959-60	Aston Villa	59	Cardiff City	58
1960-61	Ipswich Town	59	Sheffield United	58
1961-62	Liverpool	62	Leyton Orient	54
1962-63	Stoke City	53	■ Chelsea	52
1963-64	Leeds United	63	Sunderland	61
1964-65	Newcastle United	57	Northampton Town	56
1965-66	Manchester City	59	Southampton	54
1966-67	Coventry City	59	Wolverhampton Wanderers	58
1967-68	Ipswich Town	59	* Queens Park Rangers	58
1968-69	Derby County	63	Crystal Palace	56
1969-70	Huddersfield Town	60	Blackpool	53
1970-71	Leicester City	59	Sheffield United	56
1971-72	Norwich City	57	Birmingham City	56
1972-73	Burnley	62	Queens Park Rangers	61
1973-74	Middlesbrough	65	Luton Town	50
1974-75	Manchester United	61	Aston Villa	58
1975-76	Sunderland	56	Bristol City	53
1976-77	Wolverhampton Wanderers	57	Chelsea	55
1977-78	Bolton Wanderers	58	Southampton	57
1978-79	Crystal Palace	57	Brighton & Hove Albion	56
1979-80	Leicester City	55	Sunderland	54
1980-81	West Ham United	66	Notts. County	53

* Championship/or runners-up gained on goal average.

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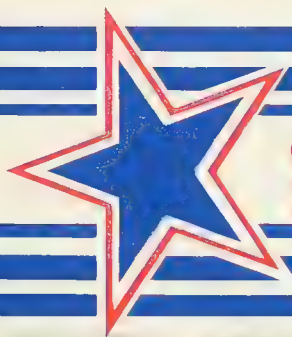


Mike Quinn's close range header brings a fine save out of Halifax Town goalkeeper Lee Smelt. Photograph by David Cookson.

STAR SHOTS by DAVID COOKSON

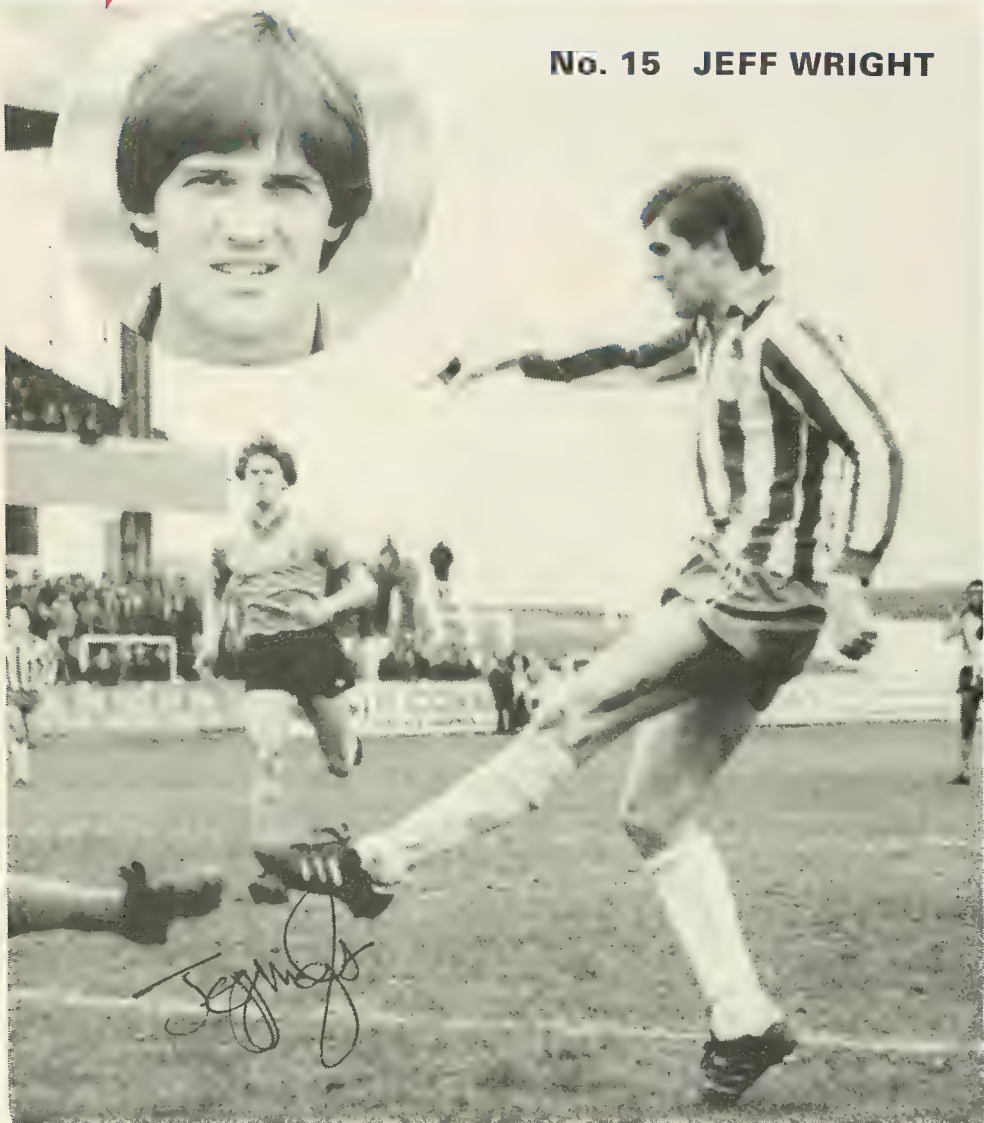
It is planned to sell photographic copies (size 8½" x 6½") of each player featured in the Star Shot series, at a cost of 50 pence per copy. Cash, with order to Commercial Department Soccer Shop, Wigan Athletic A.F.C. Ltd., Springfield Park, Wigan. Cheques and Postal Orders to be made payable to Wigan Athletic A.F.C. Ltd. (if ordering by post, add 20 pence to the cost quoted)





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LED

As most of the older ones will already know, the Senior Christmas Disco had to be cancelled because of the terrible weather conditions. It was simply a case of 'you can't have a disco without the disco' and our disco was stuck in Manchester.

I'm not trying to upset you older members, but I thought you might like to hear about the Junior Disco, which was held on the 7th December, it turned out to be a really riotous affair with over 100 members, between the ages of 7 - 11 years, streaming into the Supporters' Club for the 7 p.m. start.

Paper hats, hundreds of balloons and streamers, dozens of prizes, lots of games and competitions, and four guests who threw themselves into the spirit of the evening, were the recipe for success.

The sight of David Glenn, Kevin Langley, Tony Frazer and Graham Hatton having balloons pushed up their jumpers, under their arms, and in all sorts of other places by four young ladies in one game, nearly brought the house down.

Coca Cola

As the coaching and tests for the Blue Certificate in the F.A. Coca Cola Super Skills were successfully completed a few weeks ago, we held a 6 a-side competition for all the boys and girls who had been working so hard for the previous 6 weeks. The 11 boys and 1 girl who made up the winners and runners-up teams will be receiving their medals at our Presentation Night in January.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking John Curtis and Peter Jackson for all the hard work and patience they have shown over the seven weeks.

Show Night

On the 14th January we are holding a night of nights. It's an evening of entertainment and laughs. I'm not going to tell you very much about it now, but I do know that some of Latics First Team will be seen in a rather different light after the 14th January.

MATCHDAY MASCOT

Today's Mascot is very special, because he is only 7 years old.

He is James Rasburn from Shevington, whose hobbies are Football, Chess and Swimming.

His favourite team is, of course, Wigan Athletic and his favourite player is Kevin Keegan.

Have a happy day James.

May we take this opportunity of wishing you a Happy New Year, and I hope you all had a good Christmas.

John Fillingham, Chairman.



JUNIOR LATICS





Kevin Sheldon's right-foot shot cannot find its way through the massed Halifax Town defence. Getting up well, Kevin Sheldon goes near to adding a third goal against Halifax Town. Photographs by David Cookson.



LATICS LOTTERY

INCENTIVES FOR AGENTS/VENDORS



100 - 200 tickets per week
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600 tickets per week
2 Stand OR 4 Ground Tickets

A running total of tickets sold by Agents/Vendors will be kept from the start of Lottery Number 40.

Any Agent/Vendor that sells a total of 2,000 tickets by the end of March, will go into a draw for two tickets for a home International game of their choice.

The top selling Agent/Vendor will receive two home International tickets of their choice.

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Commission will be 10% for the first 500 tickets per week, 12½% for 500 - 750 tickets and 15% for 750 tickets upwards.

If you are interested in selling tickets, please contact David Roberts at the Lottery Office, Springfield Park on Wigan 44433 or 43067.



Home fixtures in capitals.
Wigan scores first

Player scoring bold.
† Player substituted.

²Figure indicates no. of goals scored by player.
*In result column indicates opponents own goal.

DATE FIXTURE

F A ATT.

1

2

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1981

AUG 29	Bradford City	3-3	4,229	Brown	McMahon	Glenn	Cribley	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon†	Barrow	Bradd†	Quinn	Evans ²	Houghton
Aug. 31	STOCKPORT CNTY. F.L. Cup 1 1st Leg	3-0	5,079	Brown	McMahon	Glenn	Cribley	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Bradd†	Quinn	Evans	Houghton
SEPT. 5	SHEFFIELD UNITED	0-1	8,001	Brown	McMahon	Glenn	Cribley†	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Houghton	Quinn	Evans	Wright
Sept. 12	Hartlepool United	1-2	1,715	Brown	McMahon	McAdam†	Cribley	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Houghton	Quinn	Evans	Wright
Sept. 14	Stockport County F.L. Cup 1 2nd Leg	2-1	2,913	Ward	McMahon	Glenn	Wright	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Langley†	Houghton	Quinn	Evans	Cribley
Sept. 19	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	3-1	3,996	Ward	McMahon	Glenn	Wright	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Langley†	Houghton	Quinn	Evans	Cribley
Sept. 23	PORT VALE	2-0	4,525	Ward	McMahon	Cribley	Wright	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Quinn†	Bradd†	Houghton	Evans	Barrow
Sept. 26	Tranmere Rovers	0-0	2,774	Ward	McMahon	Cribley	Wright	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Quinn	Bradd†	Houghton	Evans	Langley
Sept. 29	A.F.C. Bourne-mouth	0-0	4,952	Ward	McMahon	Weston	Wright	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Houghton	Quinn	Evans	Cribley
OCT. 3	TORQUAY UNITED	1-0	4,876	Ward	McMahon	Weston	Wright	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Houghton	Quinn	Evans	Cribley
Oct 6	Aldershot F.L. Cup 2 1st Leg	2-2	1,960	Ward	McMahon	Cribley	Wignall	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow²	Bradd	Houghton	Evans	Langley
Oct 10	STOCKPORT COUNTY	2-1	4,873	Ward	McMahon	Weston	Wignall	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Bradd	Houghton	Evans	Cribley
Oct 17	Hull City	2-0	3,600	Ward	McMahon	Weston	Wignall	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Bradd	Houghton	Evans	Cribley
Oct 20	Bury	3-5	6,249	Ward	McMahon	Weston	Wignall	Lloyd†	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Bradd	Houghton	Evans	Cribley
Oct 24	SCUNTHORPE UNITED	2-1	4,553	Ward	McMahon	Weston	Wignall	Cribley	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Bradd†	Houghton	Evans	M. Quinn
Oct 27	ALDERSHOT F.L. Cup 2 2nd Leg	1-0	4,926	Brown	McMahon	Glenn	Wignall	Cribley	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Quinn M	Houghton	Evans	Wright
Oct 30	Colchester United.	2-1	3,882	Brown	McMahon	Cribley	Wignall	Lloyd	Methven	Glenn	Barrow	Bradd	Houghton	Weston	Evans
NOV. 4	DARLINGTON	2-1	4,512	Brown	McMahon	Cribley	Wignall	Lloyd	Methven	Glenn	Barrow	Bradd	Houghton	Weston	Evans
Nov. 7	HEREFORD UNITED	1-1	4,715	Tunks	McMahon	Cribley	Wignall	Lloyd	Methven	Glenn†	Barrow	Bradd	Houghton	Weston	Evans
Nov. 11	CHELSEA F.L. Cup 3	4-2	12,063	Tunks	McMahon	Cribley	Wignall²	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Bradd	Houghton	Evans	Quinn
Nov. 14	York City	0-0	2,780	Tunks	Cribley	Weston	Wignall	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Bradd	Houghton	Evans	Glenn
Nov. 21	HARTLEPOOL UNITED F.A. Cup 1	2-2	5,303	Tunks	McMahon	Cribley	Wignall	Bradd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Quinn	Houghton	Weston	Evans
Nov. 25	Hartlepool United F.A. Cup 1R	0-1	3,739	Tunks	Cribley	Weston	Wignall†	Bradd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Quinn	Houghton	Evans	Glenn
Nov. 28	Rochdale	1-1	2,675	Brown	McMahon	Glenn	Wignall	Bradd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Quinn	Houghton	Evans	Wright
DEC. 1	ASTON VILLA F.L. Cup 4	1-2	15,362	Tunks	McMahon	Glenn	Wignall†	Bradd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Quinn	Houghton	Evans	Wright
Dec 5	HALIFAX TOWN	2-0	4,022	Tunks	McMahon	Glenn	Wignall	Bradd†	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Quinn	Houghton	Evans	Wright

1982

JAN 2 Mansfield Town
 Jan 9 Sheffield United
 Jan 12 Crewe Alexandra
 Jan 16 PETERBOROUGH UNITED
 Jan 23 BRADFORD CITY
 Jan 30 Northampton Town

FEB 6 HARTLEPOOL UNITED

Feb 8 Port Vale
 Feb 13 Torquay United
 Feb 20 TRANMERE ROVERS
 Feb 26 Stockport County

MAR 6 HULL CITY

Mar 10 BURY
 Mar 12 Scunthorpe United
 Mar 16 Darlington
 Mar 20 COLCHESTER UNITED
 Mar 27 Hereford United

APR 2 YORK CITY

Apr 9 Blackpool
 Apr 10 CREWE ALEXANDRA
 Apr 17 Halifax Town
 Apr 24 ROCHDALE

MAY 1

May 1 Peterborough United
 May 5 A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH
 May 8 MANSFIELD TOWN
 May 15 Aldershot

' 2 - 1

Tunks

McMahon Glenn

Wignall

Lloyd

Merhven

Weston

Barrow

Bradd

Houghton

Evans

Quinn

FOURTH DIVISION LEAGUE TABLE AS AT SUN. 3rd JANUARY, 1982

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Colchester Utd.	19	7	1	1	26	6	6	1	3	18	12	41
Sheffield Utd.	19	7	3	0	22	7	5	2	2	13	8	41
Bournemouth	20	5	5	0	13	5	6	2	2	12	7	40
Bradford City	17	7	1	1	21	9	5	1	2	17	10	38
Bury	18	8	0	1	29	9	3	3	3	13	14	36
Peterborough Utd.	18	8	0	1	24	5	3	3	3	8	11	36
Wigan Athletic	19	7	1	1	15	6	3	5	2	14	13	36
Port Vale	19	5	2	2	12	9	4	3	3	12	11	32
Torquay Utd.	20	5	3	3	16	12	3	1	5	8	10	28
Blackpool	18	5	1	2	22	10	2	4	4	15	16	26
Stockport County	18	7	0	2	20	9	0	3	6	4	15	24
Hartlepool Utd.	18	4	1	4	14	12	2	2	5	10	15	22
Aldershot	18	4	1	4	12	12	1	4	4	17	20	21
Hull City	18	3	4	2	11	11	1	4	4	6	11	20
Darlington	18	1	6	2	10	11	2	4	3	14	19	19
Hereford Utd.	18	1	3	5	13	20	4	1	4	12	16	19
York City	18	3	4	2	10	7	1	2	6	6	18	18
Rochdale	18	3	4	2	10	7	1	2	6	10	15	18
Tranmere Rovers	18	1	5	3	6	10	3	1	5	10	15	18
Mansfield Town	19	3	3	4	18	18	1	2	6	7	17	17
Halifax Town	19	2	3	4	8	12	1	4	5	11	22	16
Scunthorpe Utd.	18	2	4	3	12	16	1	1	7	5	17	14
Crewe Alexandra	18	2	1	6	9	12	2	0	7	3	21	13
Northampton T.	19	2	3	5	11	13	0	2	7	9	28	11

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Comment

FROM THE CHAIR

Our Chairman has invited me to contribute to Comments this week and, on behalf of him and everybody else, I extend a warm welcome to Tranmere Rovers Football Club this afternoon. After a hard and wet encounter at Prenton Park we know that we will have to work hard for the three points at stake tonight.

Since joining the Board, I have been preoccupied with learning about the Club in depth, particularly with regard to its financial position, potential, and the long-term planning involved.

There is no doubt that Wigan, the League Babes, have made tremendous strides over the last few years with a smart ground, good training facilities, enthusiastic support, and a youth policy which has already produced players of the calibre of Glenn, Wignall, Micky Quinn, and Langley, together with more youngsters progressing through the Reserves.

However, with the transition from the wilderness of Non-League to League Status, we have much heavier financial responsibilities which can no longer be solved by a whip-round among Directors on the Club coach.

* Our current expenses are £6,500 per week, of which £4,500 are wages

- * Transfer and signing-on fees so far this year total £67,000
- * With gate receipts estimated at £150,000 this year and our share of League and F.A. levies of £100,000

Wigan will need £160,000 from the Commercial Department to break even. Unfortunately results from this area have been disappointing and fall far below those achieved by less successful clubs elsewhere. Director Eric Barnes has made this problem his particular responsibility and will be writing to you in more detail later.

Put simply the position is this: Wigan can compete with successful clubs like Ipswich, Coventry, Notts Forest, Leicester, Luton and Southampton, (all of whom have a smaller population of Wigan), if we have a hard core of enthusiastic consistent supporters who work to help the Club, irrespective of current playing results.

In the New Year the Board will be announcing long-term plans for Wigan's development but meanwhile, please write to me at the Club if you have any constructive proposal, suggestion, or offer of help, which will enable us to put "Latics" on the list of the clubs who will not only survive in these difficult times but prosper in the future. All letters will be answered personally.

Enjoy tonight's game (and buy some lottery tickets) and have a good year.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Bates

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Mr. G. H. Davenport, F.C.B.S.I.

Solutions to Puzzle Page

SOCCER NINETY NINER No. 15 — Across 1. Cross 5. chip 6. placed 8. Whelan 9. Binder 10. Daniel 12. Herd 13. Denis. *Down* 1. cap 2. Sociedad 3. Giraffe 4. Edwards 5. Clemence 7. Lorimer 11. Les.

ON THE BALL No. 15 — Verts; Steve; heels; Clive.

CLUB CLUB No. 15 — Ports-mouth
MIXED DOUBLES No. 15 — Rioch, Munro
QUICK QUIZ No. 15 — 1. Manchester City (119 x 79 yds) 2. Terry Bly (Peterborough, 1960-61) 3. Denis Law (1965-67); 4. A 0-0 result 5. Peter and Ron Springett (Sheffield Wednesday & QPR, 1967).

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**WIGAN
ATHLETIC**
(Royal Blue & White Stripes)

- 1 Roy Tunks
- 2 John McMahon
- 3 David Glenn
- 4 Mark Wignall
- 5 Larry Lloyd
- 6 Colin Methven
- 7 Kevin Sheldon
- 8 Graham Barrow
- 9 Les Bradd
- 10 Peter Houghton
- 11 Clive Evans
- 12 Mike Quinn

TEAM CHECK

REFEREE

AND

LINESMEN

TO BE

ANNOUNCED

FOR YOUR RECORDS

H.T. SCORE:

F.T. SCORE:

ATTENDANCE:

SCORERS

LATICS:

VISITORS:

.....



**TRANMERE
ROVERS**
(Gold/Black)

- 1 Scott Endersby
- 2 Steve Mungall
- 3 Dave Burgess
- 4 Derek Mountfield
- 5 John Bramhall
- 6 John Williams
- 7 Bryan Hamilton
- 8 Bobby Hutchinson
- 9 Les Parry
- 10 Owen Brown
- 11 Ian Griffiths
- 12 Brian Morley

"HERE NEXT"
Saturday, 16th January, 1992
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.
WIGAN ATHLETIC v PETERBOROUGH U
Football League Division Four